



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP) Questions & Answers

What is MassEVIP?

The Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP) is a competitive grant program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) that provides incentives to municipalities to purchase electric vehicles (EVs) and install Level 2 charging stations.

Why do we need MassEVIP?

MassDEP is launching MassEVIP to help meet the Commonwealth's aggressive climate and energy efficiency goals established by the Patrick Administration under the Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) and the Green Communities Act (GCA). MassEVIP helps the transition to a clean energy economy and reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector, one of the major sources of GHG emissions. The MassEVIP program helps achieve several of the Patrick Administration's policy goals, including:

- The Clean Energy and Climate Plan goals under the Global Warming Solutions Act - reducing GHG emissions by 25% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050;
- Efforts to make cities and towns more energy efficient; and
- Improving air quality by reducing smog forming and other pollutant emissions.

By launching MassEVIP, the Commonwealth demonstrates its commitment to increase the deployment of electric vehicles in municipal fleets and the visibility of advanced technology vehicles in communities across the state.

What incentives and grants will be available to assist municipalities?

The incentives are \$7,500 for battery electric vehicles and \$5,000 for plug-in hybrid vehicles. Municipalities could qualify to add up to five electric vehicles (EVs) to their fleet. The incentive for a charging station is up to \$15,000 per publicly accessible Level 2 dual charging station (can charge two vehicles at a time) with the purchase of at least one battery electric vehicle.

This information is available in alternate format. Call Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director, at 617-292-5751. TDD# 1-866-539-7622 or 1-617-574-6868
MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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Preference will be given to municipalities that are registered as a green community¹ in the Commonwealth, and/or are currently identified as having an Environmental Justice community, as defined by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA).

What is the application process for a municipality?

The application process is quite simple. Interested municipalities need to complete an application form and submit to MassDEP before the end of June 2013. The application form and the instructions are found on MassDEP's webpage:

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/grants/massevip.html. After June 30, all applications received are reviewed by MassDEP. Upon completion of its review, MassDEP issues Grant Application Approvals and an End-User Agreements that define the terms and conditions of the grant to the awarded municipal applicants. Upon receipt of the signed End-User Agreement by MassDEP, the approved municipalities can then complete their vehicle purchase. MassEVIP will provide the incentive directly to the vehicle vendor on state contract.

If a municipality wishes to purchase an electric vehicle that is not currently available on Massachusetts state-wide contract but is sold in Massachusetts, the municipality *itself* must be on the state wide contract with the Commonwealth for goods and services. The municipality may purchase a battery electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle identified on California's list (<http://energycenter.org/index.php/incentive-programs/clean-vehicle-rebate-project/cvrp-eligible-vehicles>); however, the municipality must do its own bid process to acquire the battery electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle. MassEVIP will then provide the incentive directly to the municipality upon presentation of the invoice attesting proof of the vehicle(s) purchase.

What are electric vehicles and what vehicles are available under MassEVIP?

For the purposes of this program, an electric vehicle is an automobile that can either be powered by energy stored in an on-board rechargeable battery, or a hybrid system that uses a rechargeable battery in combination with an internal combustion engine. The list of available vehicles and dealerships on state contract for the MassEVIP program can be found on the program's webpage: (www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/grants/massevip.html) and include battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEVs).

What charging stations are available under MassEVIP?

The list of available charging stations and vendors on state contract for the MassEVIP program can be found on the program's webpage: (www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/grants/massevip.html).

How can EV owners recharge their vehicles?

EV owners can plug into a standard wall outlet (120 volt also know as a Level 1) to recharge their vehicle. The Level 1 outlet is typically used for overnight charging. For a quicker

¹ <http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/green-communities/>

recharge, EV owners can use a Level 2 charging station that delivers 240 volts of charging power. Massachusetts has more than 400 public charging points across the state at work sites, retail stores, and commuter parking garages.

What are the benefits of electricity as a power source for a car versus a car fueled by petroleum?

Although EVs are charged with electricity generated from fossil fuels, less GHGs are emitted than a conventional gasoline fueled vehicle. The Northeast power grid is more reliant on natural gas and renewable energy, so electricity generated in the Northeast is among the cleanest in the country. EVs not only decrease GHG emissions from the tailpipe but also significantly reduce smog forming emissions from the power source.

In addition, because the electricity that EVs need is generated almost entirely by domestic sources, we can decrease our dependence on foreign oil imports. And since electricity costs are lower than petroleum and not subject to price volatility, EV owners can benefit from a reliable and less expensive source of energy to power their vehicles. Over the lifetime of an EV, an owner can save thousands of dollars in fuel cost.

What are the cost savings from driving an EV?

Driving an EV costs much less per “gallon” than a conventional vehicle. The average cost of electricity in the Northeast is over 14 cents per kWh² which would translate to about a \$1 per gallon equivalent. Per mile, it is estimated to be about \$0.02 per mile for an EV versus \$0.14 cents per mile for a strictly gasoline automobile.

Are electric vehicles slower than a conventional car?

No, an EV performs similarly to a conventional gasoline-fueled vehicle.

Where can I get more information on how to apply for MassEVIP incentives and grants?

You can get more information and download the application package (forms and instructions) at MassEVIP webpage (www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/grants/massevip.html). The webpage will also contain up-to-date list of eligible vehicles, incentives per vehicle, and all supporting documentation and forms.

What other resources are out there for municipalities to learn more about EVs?

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Clean Cities Coalition and Alternative Transportation Program is part of a nationwide program sponsored by the [U.S. Department of Energy \(DOE\)](http://www.energy.gov) that focuses on promoting the adoption of alternative fuel vehicles, as well as supporting the development of infrastructure necessary to make alternatively fueled vehicles (AFVs) a viable transportation option:

² Estimate from the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_5_6_a. April 22, 2013.

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/alternative-transportation/clean-cities-coalition.html>

The Transportation and Climate Initiative's Northeast Electric Vehicle Network has developed a number of useful electric vehicle guidance documents for communities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. The documents were developed to help municipalities become "EV-ready":

<http://www.transportationandclimate.org/content/northeast-electric-vehicle-network>

The U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program helps vehicle fleets and consumers reduce their petroleum use. Clean Cities builds partnerships with local and statewide organizations in the public and private sectors to adopt alternative and renewable fuels, idle reduction measures, fuel economy improvements, and new transportation technologies, as they emerge: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/>

And to compare fuel savings between a conventional vehicle and an EV, go to:

<http://www.fueleconomy.gov/>

